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To: [Committee, Environment \(REPS\)](#)
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Submission to Australian Local Power Agency Bill 2021

We are wanting to build, own and operate mid-scale projects and like large developers, we need price certainty to deliver. There is a market barrier in the pricing of electricity infrastructure that fails to unlock the savings of locating energy supply near demand. There are no incentives for the market to unlock public benefits such as improved community resilience and local jobs.

The financial mechanism should follow a process with the following criteria:

- Encourage collaboration
- An EOI process so projects can bid early, giving them the confidence to develop
- Be simple to administer, with clear objective success criteria
- Minimise political risk through not requiring ministerial or departmental sign-off
- Include projects over a broad range of technologies
- Be tailored to value and deliver the multiple benefits associated with CE

The proposed criteria to determine who is eligible includes:

- community-led project or community/developer partnership with broad local support
- local shareholding inclusive of community investment (minimum 20%), including council, water authority, etc (> 50% total)
- project scale > 1MW - 10MW
- local control and decision-making power related to the project
- local distribution of the social and economic benefits generated through the project.
- project is appropriately scaled to the local environment and/or community
- project harnesses the skills and capital of the local community

Dr Robin Gunning

